

03560.003310.



PATENT APPLICATION

IPW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
TADASHI OKAMOTO ET AL.) Examiner: E. DeJong
Application No.: 10/601,777) Group Art Unit: 1631
Filed: June 24, 2003)
For: A METHOD FOR ACQUIRING)
INFORMATION OF A BIOCHIP)
USING TIME OF FLIGHT)
SECONDARY ION MASS)
SPECTROMETRY AND AN)
APPARATUS FOR ACQUIRING)
INFORMATION FOR THE)
APPLICATION THEREOF : April 6, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated March 9, 2005, imposing a restriction requirement in the above-identified application.

REMARKS

The Examiner has required election of a single disclosed invention for prosecution on the merits in this case. The Examiner alleged the existence of two patentably distinct inventions:

Group I: Claims 1-18 and 20, drawn to a method for acquiring information, classified in class 702, subclass 22; and